THE LOGGER'S BARK

Radio Club of Tacoma, Inc.

P.O. Box 11188

Tacoma, WA 98411

OCTOBER 2006 EVENTS

Club Meetings: Wednesdays October 11th and 25th at the library Administration building at 7:30 pm, 112th & Waller road. Everyone is invited to attend.

Board Meeting, Wednesday October 4th 7:30 p.m. Clubhouse - All members welcome

License Testing - Tuesday, October 10th 2006 7:00PM at the RCT clubhouse.

BARK deadline Sunday October 29th 2006- PLEASE get articles, columns, etc. in by that time!

- Support OUR club - Attend meetings, volunteer, Elmer.
- Check in to the 2-meter Net every Tuesday night at 7:30, on 147.28. Hear additional information on programs and other events.
- Check in on the 10 Meter Net every Sunday evening, 8 PM, on 28.375 MHz USB

RADIO CLUB OF TACOMA OFFICERS -- 2006

PRESIDENT, MICK PIER, KK7QS, kk7qs@comcast.net, 253-891-6950

V PRES, JILL PALMER, K7JIL , hamtalker2@msn.com 253-539-7772

SEC., Larry Watson, KD7VOM , rwatson@chirpmail.net

TREAS., PAT WINGERTER KD7TRC pwingerter@harbornet.com 253-274-8657

BOARD (5)

FRANK PALMER, AC7JY	ac7jy@msn.com	253-539-7772
PETER BAKER, AD7EU	ad7eu.pp@gmail.com	253-274-1957
GARY MCADAMS, WG7X	roster E-mail address	253-984-0868
LARRY ALVAR,KD7TQW	kd7tqw@yahoo.com	360-413-7539
RODDNEY SAUCEDO,WV7O	rjsaucedo@comcast.net	253-222-8102

***LOGGER'S BARK* STAFF**

EDITOR:

Gary McAdams WG7X, thebark@comcast.net. 253-984-0868

REPORTERS:

Rich Patrick, KR7W

Gary McAdams, WG7X John Clarke AC7WW

Feature writers: Send Articles and Submissions for this publication to:

thebark@comcast.net. or Gary WG7X at roster E-mail address

PUBLISHER W7DK PRESS AC7WW 253-475-5854

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CLUB MEETINGS: 7:30 PM 2nd & 4th Wednesdays of each month at the Pierce County Library Administration Building, 3005 - 112th Street East, Tacoma, WA

RADIO CLUB OF TACOMA REPEATERS ARE ON THE FOLLOWING FREQUENCIES:

147.28 / .88 MHz (PL 103.5)	144.97 - Packet	440.625 / 445.625 (PL 103.5)
147.38 / .98 MHz (PL 103.5)		

The R.C.T. Clubhouse is located at 1249 South Washington Street, Tacoma, Washington. Mailing address for all Club business: Post Office Box 11188, Tacoma WA 98411 253-759-2040

The regular membership fee for FULL (licensed) and ASSOCIATE (unlicensed) members is $30 per calendar year. Licensed Senior Citizens (age 65 and over) pay the reduced rate of $25. Licensed family members (living at the same address as a FULL member) pay $15 each for the first two and are free thereafter (more than two.) Full-time students (both licensed and unlicensed) up to, and including seniors in college through age 25 – pay $15. All fees mentioned thus far are per calendar year. You may also purchase a life-time membership for 20-times the "normal" fee for your current age. Life-time memberships are calculated based on the FULL (Regular or Senior Citizen) and ASSOCIATE rates

E-mail all articles to Thebark@comcast.net, or to: Gary McAdams 11405 88th AVE CT SW Lakewood, WA 98498-4109

Commercial Advertising per issue: $60.00 full page, $30 per one-half page, $15.00 per quarter page, Business Cards $5.00. Advertising moneys help offset the costs of publication and mailing. Swap and Wanted Column articles are free to R.C.T. members. *The Logger's Bark* does not verify or guarantee statements in the Swap or Wanted columns. Permission is granted to use any or all portions of articles published in *The Logger's Bark* if credit line is included in the report.

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RADIO CLUB OF TACOMA

October 2006

Volume 2 Issue 10

The Logger's Bark

RADIO CLUB of TACOMA

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Special points of interest:

- Elmer board page 4
- September Calendar page 5
- Interesting Article By Kr7W on page 18
- How to wire the mobile on page 23

From The Prez

Here we are again approaching the year-end. That means it is coming up on election time for club officers and board members.

I have appointed a nomination committee to handle the nominations. John Clarke, AC7WW, is the chair. He will have Al Churchill, AC7BU, and Steve Morton, AD7AB helping with the duties.

If you, or anyone you know is interested in running for any of the open positions, please contact one of the committee representatives. The positions that will be open for candidates are: President, Treasurer, and two board positions.

I have been president for six years now and I think the club is about ready for some new leadership. I hope that during those six years I have not made too many enemies, or offended anyone. If you have ideas for the clubs future, and the ambition to see them happen, please consider giving it a try. I will not be running this year, so we will need someone to take over. THAT COULD BE YOU!

We will take nominations from the floor during the first meeting of October. After the close of nominations from the floor we will not be able to accept any more candidates. Remember, no one can be nominated from the floor without his or her prior consent. I will then appoint an election committee.

This committee shall be responsible for composition, distribution and collection of all ballots. If you are interested in helping with this, please contact me. Then during the first meeting of October the ballots will be counted, and the results announced. Newly elected officers and board members will assume their duties on January 1 following their election.

Get Plugged In

visit your club's website

www.w7dk.org

for the latest news and club activities

Elmer Board

Do you need help with some area in ham radio? Here is a place to start… First is the listing of areas of support, followed by a list of members' areas of interest.

1.Technical questions, Classes
2. Help with Code
3. License Examinations
4. Antenna and Station planning
5. Antenna and Tower erection
6. Buying new or used equipment
7. Equipment repair
8. Understanding and operating your equipment
9. DX and Contests
10. Club and ARRL activities
11. Using test equipment
12. IRLP

Name/Call Sign /Phone Number/ Help with topic

Alan, KB7SVU 253-840-4947: 4, 5, 10

Frank, N7UO 253-752-8520 : 2, 3

Angela, KC7EQ 253-589-4071: 2

Mick, KK7QS 253-891-6950 : 12

Gary WG7X 253-984-0868: 1,4,5,6,8,9,10,11

If you are willing to share your time and knowledge with "newbees" and others, let us know and get on the Elmer Board!

Schedule of Events

- Tuesdays October 3rd, 10th , 17th 24th &31st Club Repeater net 147.280
- Board Meeting Wednesday October 3rd @ 7:30 PM at RCT club house.
- General meetings on 2nd & 4th Wednesdays: that's the 11th & 25th.
- Columbus Day, Monday October 9th. Govt. workers get off, all others get to work!
- Daylight savings time ends Sunday October 29th! Turn clocks back 1 hour.
- Halloween! Tuesday October 31. **BOO!**

OCTOBER 2006

Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
1	2	3	4	5	6	7
8	9	10	11	12	13	14
15	16	17	18	19	20	21
22	23	24	25	26	27	28
29	30	31				

EDITORS NOTES...

Hello Again fellow Club members!

WOW!

Another month has gone by… That sure went by in a hurry, didn't it?

We have another good issue of "The Loggers Bark" to peruse today, chock full of radio goodness.

For those who are interested, October generally brings on better propagation on the HF bands and the winter DX/Contest season kicks off this month. We already did the annual Washington State QSO party from the mighty W7DK station, and the participants had a great time! We will see an article next month on that.

This month brings coverage of the WW7LW expedition to Dege peak in the Mt Rainier National park. Some of the club members climbed Dege and put it on the air for the ARRL VHF/UHF QSO party.

So… lots of stuff to do and many fine articles to read.

Get going!

De WG7X

VE TEAM REPORT

By John AC7WW

The VE Testing Session on the evening of September 12h, at the Radio Club of Tacoma club house was attended by five candidates. There was nine VE's present to conduct the session.

There were a total of 9 elements graded, with 4 being passed. Four new Technicians joined the Amateur Radio Service. Three of the new Technicians took a try at the General written test (element 3), but failed to pass the exam.

Thanks to the VE's that attended this session.

Next regular testing session will be Tuesday, October 10th at 7:00 PM.

VE's Present:

John Clarke AC7WW
Joe Baldassari W7RQ
Richard Heasty KK7VH
Bill Jonez AB7WJ
Gary Kohtala K7EK
Jim Lawrence N7RHX
Stephen Morton AD7AB
Don Perry K7QLC
Roland Svensson WQ7P

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Mini-Swap Meet at the Clubhouse

Last Saturday of each month Mini Swap Meet at the Clubhouse … 10 a.m. to 2 p.m….There will be food (hot dogs, etc.) …Bring in your items you want to swap or sell or stop by to see what others bring.

FELONIES, ALLEGED CORPORATE MISDEEDS COULD COST RADIO AMATEUR HIS LICENSE

The FCC has ordered an Indiana commercial and Amateur Radio license holder, Timothy M. Doty, WB9MCD, of W Terre Haute, and a Land Mobile Service (LMS) company in which he's a principal to show cause why their respective licenses should not be revoked. In an Order to Show Cause released August 30, the FCC said it received information last year suggesting that Commercial Radio Service Inc (CRS) "may not have properly disclosed information" about Doty's felony convictions in applications it filed with the Commission.

"The character of the applicant is among those factors that the Commission considers in its review of applications to determine whether the applicant has the requisite qualifications to be a Commission licensee," the FCC said in the show cause order. Felony convictions "raise potential questions regarding a licensee's qualifications," the FCC said. "Similarly, because of the extent of his ownership and control of CRS, Mr Doty's felony convictions also raise serious questions about the character qualifications of CRS to be and remain a Commission licensee."

The FCC said CRS's response to a letter of inquiry it had sent last May determined that Doty has been a director and 50 percent shareholder of CRS, and, until last May, a CRS officer. CRS holds licenses for four Private LMS stations and one Commercial LMS station. Doty holds a General Radiotelephone Operator license in addition to his ham ticket. All of the licenses are in jeopardy.

The Commission said publicly available records show that Doty was convicted in federal court of a felony that involved manufacture and possession of unauthorized satellite TV descrambling devices. He received three years' probation and a $2000 fine in that case, the FCC said in the Order. In addition, the FCC said, publicly available records indicated Doty was found guilty in state court on a felony count of possessing a controlled substance. For that conviction, he was sentenced to 18 months' incarceration with all but 30 days suspended, the FCC said in the Order.

Subsequent to his federal and state felony convictions, the FCC asserts, CRS failed to reveal that the applicant or any party directly or indirectly controlling the applicant had ever been convicted of a felony in state or federal court.

The FCC said misrepresentation and lack of candor "raise immediate concerns as to whether a licensee will be truthful in future dealings with the Commission." CRS, the FCC maintained, should have revealed Doty's felony convictions in its Commission filings. "The Commission may revoke the license of a licensee who deliberately makes misrepresentations or lacks candor in dealing with the agency because he or she lacks the basic character qualifications to hold the license,." the FCC said.

Assuming that CRS and Doty respond to the show cause order within 30 days of its release, the Commission indicated it would schedule a hearing to determine whether Doty's felony convictions affect his and CRS's qualifications to be and remain a Commission licensee and to determine whether CRS made misrepresentations and/or lacked candor in its dealings with the FCC.

"CRS's failure to disclose the felony convictions of one of its principals raises a substantial and material question of fact as to whether CRS made false certifications, misrepresented facts to the Commission and/or demonstrated a lack of candor," the FCC said in its discussion of the case.

The FCC suggested that CRS declined to reveal Doty's felony convictions because it knew the information would potentially disqualify CRS and Doty as Commission licensees.

Regardless of the outcome of the hearing on the character qualification issues, the FCC said it also would determine whether to fine CRS as much as $97,500 for its alleged failure to disclose Doty's felony convictions in one or more applications.

Since the 1990s, the FCC has applied character qualification standards previously reserved for broadcast licensees to applicants and licensees in other radio services, including the Amateur Radio Service.

The Order to Show Cause is available on the FCC Web site <http://hraunfoss.fcc.gov/edocs_public/attachmatch/FCC-06-128A1.pdf>.

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CHIP MARGELLI, K7JA, MOVES TO HEIL SOUND LTD

Well-known Amateur Radio industry personality Chip Margelli, K7JA, has joined Heil Sound Ltd <http://www.heilsound.com> as vice president of sales and marketing. Heil Sound President Bob Heil, K9EID, and his wife Sarah announced September 14 that Margelli will be responsible for all national and international Amateur Radio sales and marketing plans. Margelli, who for many years has been associated with the Yaesu Amateur Radio brand and regularly fronted that manufacturer's hamfest concessions all over the US, says he's "honored and excited" to be making the move to Heil Sound.

"Heil Sound is a dynamic, growing, and creative enterprise, and I look forward to being a part of their bright future," Margelli commented.

Calling it "an historic day for Amateur Radio," Heil said Margelli "brings his great passion and knowledge of Amateur Radio to this new post." He cited Margelli's more than 40 years of experience and expertise as a DXer, DXpeditioner, contester and top-notch CW operator "along with his great knowledge of just about every radio in existence" as assets that will benefit Heil Sound's dealers and customers worldwide.

Licensed since 1963, Margelli is an ARRL Life Member. He also belongs to AMSAT and the Quarter Century Wireless Association (QCWA). He and his wife Janet, KL7MF, live in Garden Grove, California.

Margelli has authored articles for QST, QCWA Journal, CQ and CQ VHF magazines. His most recent contribution for QST was "Field Day 2003 from Cuba," which appeared in the December 2003 issue. Margelli enjoys operating on all amateur bands from HF through UHF -- including "weak-signal" terrestrial and moonbounce work and satellite operation -- and has a special fondness for 6 meters. Beyond ham radio, Margelli enjoys photography, astronomy and running marathons.

Margelli holds both bachelor's and master's degrees (political science and business administration, respectively) from the University of Washington. He speaks fluent Japanese.

In May 2005, Margelli and partner Ken Miller, K6CTW, enjoyed their "15 minutes of Amateur Radio fame" with an appearance on The Tonight Show with Jay Leno on NBC. Using Morse code, the two radio amateurs went head to head with US cell-phone text messaging champ Ben Cook and his partner to see which mode would get the message through in the shortest time. Margelli, Miller and Morse won hands down.

Outside of the realm of the Amateur Radio industry, Margelli and Heil are longtime friends. An industry personality in his own right, Heil was inducted into the Rock and Roll Hall of Fame in June on the basis of his pioneering sound work with a variety of rock bands, including The James Gang and The Eagles (see "Hall of Famer Bob Heil, K9EID: "It's all Because of Ham Radio!" in Oct 2006 QST, p 49). Another Heil friend, Joe Walsh, WB6ACU, plays in both bands.

Contact Margelli via e-mail <Chip@heilsound.com>.

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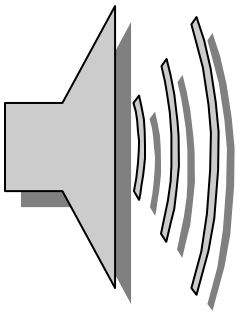

Check in to the Tuesday evening Net at 7:30p.m. on 147.28
(the W7DK repeater) for the latest news
and announcements from the club!
10 meter Net Sunday evening 8 p.m. On 28.375
CW net meets on Sunday evening 7 p.m. on 28.150
2-Meter SSB Net every Tuesday after FM net, 144.275

APOLOGETIC RADIO JAMMER JACK GERRITSEN GETS SEVEN YEARS, FINES

It was a day many radio amateurs in Southern California had been anticipating for a long time. On September 18, US District Court Judge R Gary Klausner sentenced convicted radio jammer Jack Gerritsen, now 70, to seven years imprisonment and imposed $15,225 in fines on six counts -- one a felony -- that included willful and malicious interference with radio communications and transmitting without a license. Before sentencing,Gerritsen apologized to the federal government, the FCC and the local Amateur Radio community, which had endured the brunt of Gerritsen's on-air tirades and outright jamming. "I'm sorry, and I apologize to everyone here," Gerritsen told those in the courtroom, which included more than a dozen radio amateurs and Gerritsen's family members. Gerritsen's contrition did nothing to convince Klausner toward leniency.

"How many times have you said you would not do this again?" Klausner reportedly asked Gerritsen, a repeat offender who served as his own attorney during his trial. "But based on your history, you come back again and again for this. I believe you will continue to do it, and it would send the wrong message to others, that five years is not long enough either!"

The sentence even exceeded US District Attorney Lamar Baker's recommended 46-month sentence. Gerritsen could have received up to 15 years in federal prison. Sentences on all counts will run concurrently.

The judge also tacked on two years' supervised probation following Gerritsen's prison term, but he recommended Gerritsen remain in custody during that period. Klausner further ordered Gerritsen to participate in a substance-abuse program. He told Gerritsen he could not identify himself by using any other means -- including his previously held Amateur Radio call sign KG6IRO -- than his real name, and he prohibited Gerritsen from owning, possessing or using any radio transmitting equipment.

The FCC fielded complaints of illegal radio transmissions linked to Gerritsen for four years. According to court documents, the Commission's investigation and signal tracking revealed that Gerritsen transmitted both prerecorded messages and real-time harassment and profanity for hours at a time. He often targeted local Amateur Radio repeater systems, precluding their use by licensed operators, and hams were among the most vocal complainants.

In May 2005 FBI agents, accompanied by FCC staff, arrested Gerritsen without incident and seized his radio equipment. Released on $250,000 bond while awaiting trial, Gerritsen remained in home detention, barred from possessing any radio equipment.

The FCC already had fined Gerritsen $10,000 for violating its rules and the Communications Act during his reign of radio terror. Just days before his December 2005 trial, the Commission affirmed $42,000 in additional fines -- two $21,000 forfeitures. In doing so, the FCC rebuffed every argument Gerritsen offered in response to each Notice of Apparent Liability, including insistent "freedom of speech" claims. The government has yet to collect anything from Gerritsen.

Following his nearly four-day trial, Gerritsen, who lives in Bell, was found guilty on a felony count of causing malicious interference to a communications system operated by the United States -- the US Coast Guard Auxiliary -- during a 2004 search-and-rescue operation. He was convicted of misdemeanors for interfering with American Red Cross radio transmissions in early 2005 while the agency was preparing for disaster relief operations, and for causing the cancellation of a US Army Reserve homeland security training exercise in 2005 by interfering with US Army Military Affiliate Radio System (MARS) communications. He also was convicted of transmitting on Amateur Radio frequencies without a valid license on three separate occasions in 2003 and 2004, all misdemeanors. The jury deliberated for less than an hour before returning its verdict December 9. Gerritsen has been in custody ever since.

In 2000, a state court convicted Gerritsen of interfering with a California Highway Patrol radio system and sentenced him to a year in prison. After his release, Gerritsen in 2001 successfully passed the Amateur Radio Technician class examination, filed an application and received the call sign KG6IRO.

Just days later, however, the Commission realized its error -- granting a license to someone convicted of interfering with Public Safety radio frequencies -- and set aside the license. Claiming the FCC could not revoke his operating privileges without a hearing, Gerritsen continued to identify as KG6IRO in some of his transmissions.

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FCC CITES ALLEGED UNLICENSED HAM BAND USERS

The FCC has notified several entities -- including two trucking companies and a balloon festival sponsor -- regarding the alleged use of Amateur Radio frequencies by unlicensed individuals. Special Counsel in the FCC Spectrum Enforcement Division Riley Hollingsworth advised all of the parties that unlicensed use of radio equipment not only can interfere with licensed users but violates federal law and could lead to fines of up to $10,000.

"Information before the Commission indicates that at the 2005 International Balloon Fiesta held in Albuquerque, there were numerous balloonists using Amateur Radio Service and General Mobile Radio Service (GMRS) radio transmitting equipment without licenses," Hollingsworth wrote Paul Smith, the event's executive director on August 23. "Both services require a license from the Commission."

Hollingsworth told Smith that while the FCC encourages all balloonists to use communication equipment of some kind, he'd like the Balloon Fiesta to advise those participating in this year's event October 6-15 that unlicensed operation is illegal. He invited Smith to post the Advisory Notice on the event's Web site.

The Commission also contacted two trucking firms regarding alleged unlicensed transmissions from tractor-trailer rigs on 10 meters earlier this year. Hollingsworth sent a Warning Notice to Cardinal Express of Concord, North Carolina, on August 28, and Melton Truck Lines of Tulsa, Oklahoma, on August 30. The FCC cited information indicating that a Cardinal Express rig on Interstate 85 in North Carolina was the source of radio transmissions on 28.085 MHz on August 2. Hollingsworth told Melton Truck Lines that the FCC had information that one of its rigs, also on Interstate 85 in North Carolina, transmitted on 28.085 MHz on June 11.

Hollingsworth warned the trucking firms that, in addition to fines and other enforcement sanctions, operating transmitting equipment without a license could land drivers in jail and lead to seizure of radio equipment. He indicated this week that both trucking firms and their drivers have contacted him in response to the warning notices and are cooperating with the FCC.

The FCC sent a third Warning Notice to Parker Contracting of Panama City, Florida, on August 21 citing allegations that the contractor's employees have been operating unlicensed radio transmitting equipment on 145.020 MHz and interfering with licensed users. Hollingsworth said the contractor promptly contacted the Commission to report it had collected the Amateur Radio transceivers and was applying for a business license.

On August 18, the FCC wrote Neva Poovey of Newton, North Carolina, citing information indicating that she or someone in her residence had been operating radio equipment that caused interference on 10 and 12 meters. Hollingsworth noted that FCC records did not indicate a license authorizing transmissions on those bands had been granted to anyone at Poovey's address.

Poovey's husband Michael responded to tell Hollingsworth he was testing "a huge mobile linear" with another individual in his driveway. A nearby radio amateur complained to the Commission after hearing the transmissions on the two amateur bands.

A Technician class licensee in Puerto Rico -- Joaquin Diaz Fontanel, WP3BH, of Humaco -- was the target of a Warning Notice sent August 28 regarding alleged operation on 7.080 MHz, a frequency not available to Technician class operators.

"Such operation may reflect adversely on your qualifications to retain and Amateur Radio license," Hollingsworth warned.

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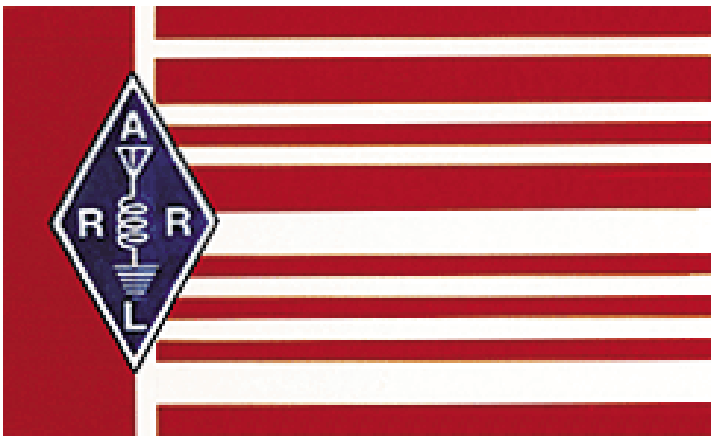

WESTERN PENNSYLVANIA SECTION CONVENTION HOST CANCELS FUTURE HAMFESTS

Just two days after hosting the ARRL Western Pennsylvania Section Convention September 10, the Butler County Amateur Radio Association (BCARA) <http://www.w3udx.org/> voted to throw in the towel and get out of the hamfest business. The main reason, cited in the September issue of the club's Tell-A-Ham newsletter, is a lack of member involvement.

"The few, dependable workers have burned out," wrote BCARA Treasurer Kevin Berry, KF4RMA, who edits the newsletter and took on tasks this year as hamfest vendor chairman, parking chairman, treasurer and flyer preparation, among others. According to the newsletter, fewer that one-quarter of the club's 80 members pitched in to make the hamfest happen this year, and nearly all handled multiple duties during the event.

The September 10 gathering at the Butler County Farm Show Fairgrounds was the club's 29th annual hamfest. Whether it's also the last, BCARA President Jim Love, W1JHL, told ARRL, is in the hands of the membership.

"If we can get the manpower that is required to support the hamfest we will continue the tradition," he said. "However, this year, as in the recent past, we have not received the needed help."

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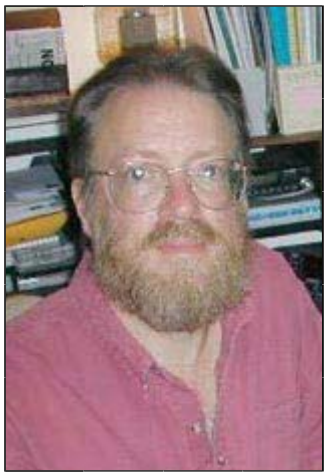
For those who missed it, here is a picture of the WW7LW group during their recent VHF/UHF expedition to Dege peak in the Mt Rainier national Park. They hoofed it up to the peak at 7003 ft ASL and made many contacts, ranging from Vancouver, BC to Bend Or. From left, Mike W7MSX, Worth W7WG, Chuck AC7QN, and Rich Kr7W

CONVERSATIONS FROM THE CONTESTORS RATE SHEET, BY WARD, N0AX



An Easy Thing To Do

In a recent post to the cq-contest reflector, John K1AR gave a short overview of the CQ World Wide Contest's plaque program.

This is a BIG program with almost 150 plaques awarded (and shipped) each year. There are many, many more certificates with nine bands, forty zones, and 150 countries active each year in the WW contests.

That's a ton of work for what is a mostly volunteer operation and for which the contest community is grateful.

Most of CQ WW's plaques are sponsored, meaning that an individual, organization, or company covers the cost of the plaque. Many of these sponsors have supported the CQ program literally for decades.

The ARRL contest program also enjoys considerable support from sponsors for its plaques, including two new company sponsors, Icom America and West Mountain Radio. While the cost for one plaque is not high, the reward to the recipient can be priceless - remember the first time a certificate showed up in your mail?

Most contesters are too busy to volunteer for a position on a contest committee, whether large like CQ WW or ARRL, or one of the innumerable smaller contests. Your organization may already be quite busy putting on its own events or performing services. Sponsorship, though, takes little time and benefits the entire contest community.

There is certainly no shortage of opportunities as nearly every contest program offers prizes and awards. Many contests will even let a sponsor define a special award! If sponsoring a plaque is a bit rich for your personal budget, maybe pairing with a friend or two is the way to go.

There are other opportunities besides the visible awards. I don't know of a single sponsor that wouldn't mind a donation to cover mailing or other administrative expenses. Each certificate must be individually printed and a donation would help pay for that expensive colored toner or ink cartridges. A certificate is printed on fancy heavy-weight paper that doesn't grow on trees, you know!

The fall contest season is upon us and our weekends will be spent in friendly (well, mostly) competition with our fellow contesters for the coveted top spots.

A few weeks or a few months hence, the final results will be published, followed by the delivery of rewards to the lucky and hardworking few. While we can't make our own band openings, we certainly can help create another type of opening--the one that follows a visit from the postman!

73, Ward N0AX

OCTOBER CONTESTS

UBA ON Contest, 6m	0600Z-1000Z, Oct 1
RSGB 21/28 MHz Contest	0700Z-1900Z, Oct 1
ARS Spartan Sprint	0100Z-0300Z, Oct 3
German Telegraphy Contest	0700Z-0959Z, Oct 3
YLRL Anniversary Party, CW	1400Z, Oct 3 to 0200Z, Oct 5
432 MHz Fall Sprint	1900 local - 2300 local, Oct 4
SARL 80m QSO Party	1700Z-2000Z, Oct 5
TARA PSK Rumble Contest	0000Z-2400Z, Oct 6
Oceania DX Contest, Phone	0800Z, Oct 7 to 0800Z, Oct 8
International HELL-Contest	1400Z-1600Z, Oct 7 (80m) and 0900Z-1100Z, Oct 8 (40m)
EU Autumn Sprint, SSB	1600Z-1959Z, Oct 7
California QSO Party	1600Z, Oct 7 to 2159Z, Oct 8
PRO CW Contest	1600Z-1800Z, Oct 7 and 0600Z-0800Z, Oct 8
UBA ON Contest, SSB	0600Z-1000Z, Oct 8
10-10 Int. 10-10 Day Sprint	0001Z-2359Z, Oct 10
YLRL Anniversary Party, SSB	1400Z, Oct 10 to 0200Z, Oct 12
NAQCC Straight Key/Bug Sprint	0030Z-0230Z, Oct 11
Makrothen RTTY Contest	0000Z-0759Z, Oct 14 and 1600Z-2359Z, Oct 14 and 0800Z-1559Z, Oct 15
ARRL EME Contest 50-1296 MHz - Part 2	0000Z, Oct 14 to 2359Z, Oct 15
Microwave Fall Sprint	0600 local - 1300 local, Oct 14
Oceania DX Contest, CW	0800Z, Oct 14 to 0800Z, Oct 15
EU Autumn Sprint, CW	1600Z-1959Z, Oct 14
Pennsylvania QSO Party	1600Z, Oct 14 to 0500Z, Oct 15 and 1300Z-2200Z, Oct 15
FISTS Fall Sprint	1700Z-2100Z, Oct 14
Asia-Pacific Fall Sprint, CW	0000Z-0200Z, Oct 15
North American Sprint, RTTY	0000Z-0400Z, Oct 15
UBA ON Contest, 2m	0600Z-1000Z, Oct 15
Run for the Bacon QRP Contest	0100Z-0300Z, Oct 16
JARTS WW RTTY Contest	0000Z, Oct 21 to 2400Z, Oct 22
ARCI Fall QSO Party	1200Z, Oct 21 to 2400Z, Oct 22
Worked All Germany Contest	1500Z, Oct 21 to 1459Z, Oct 22
W/VE Islands QSO Party	1600Z, Oct 21 to 2359Z, Oct 22
50 MHz Fall Sprint	2300Z, Oct 21 to 0300Z, Oct 22
Illinois QSO Party	1700Z, Oct 22 to 0100Z, Oct 23
CQ Worldwide DX Contest, SSB	0000Z, Oct 28 to 2400Z, Oct 29
eXtreme CW World-Wide Challenge	0000Z, Oct 28 to 2359Z, Oct 29
10-10 Int. Fall Contest	0001Z, Oct 28 to 2359Z, Oct 29

RCT Board Meeting Minutes

September 6th, 2006

The September 6th 2006 board meeting was held at the Radio Club of Tacoma club house. President Mick Pier, KK7QS, called the meeting to order at 7:39 PM.

Officers and board members present:

President	Mick Pier – KK7QS
Vice President	Jill Palmer – K7JIL
Treasurer	Pat Wingerter – KD7TRC
Board Member	Frank Palmer – AC7JY
Board Member	Gary McAdams – WG7X
Board Member	Roddney Saucedo – WV7O
Board Member	Peter Baker – AD7EU

A sign in sheet with the names of members and guests is attached.

MINUTES OF PREVIOUS MEETINGS:

Minutes from the August 2nd 2006 board meeting were approved as read/corrected. Some discussion followed regarding the placing of ads in the Bark. Per the fine print at the bottom of page 2 in the Bark, commercial advertising per issue: $60 full page, $30 per one-half page, $15 per quarter page and business cards $5.

SECRETARY'S REPORT:

In Larry's absence, Pat reported the correspondence received since August 23rd which included QSL cards, bills, and homecoming reservations.

TREASURER'S REPORT:

Pat Wingerter, KD7TRC, emailed all officers and board members the financial report for August 2006.

ANNOUNCEMENTS:

Peter Baker, AD7EU, is still looking for operators for the 90th anniversary operating event at the club house. The consensus was many people will show up but few will commit at this time.

Mick Pier, KK7QS, announced that Larry Alvar, KD7TQW, officially resigned his position as board member for 2006-2007. Mick is looking for someone to replace him. Nick Winter, K7MO, volunteered to fill the position for the remainder of the term.

Mick is also looking for people to appoint to the nominating committee by next general meeting. These people cannot be officers or board members.

COMMITTEE REPORTS:

Frank Palmer, AC7JY, says no volunteers have stepped forward to chair the Hamfest next year.

Bob Purdom, KE7DGQ, will chair the club's field day event next year. Thanks, Bob!

Larry Watson, KD4VOM, prepared a projected budget for the 90th anniversary celebration. We must have 100 people sign up to break even financially.

Rick Rose, KE7EMW, presented a spreadsheet breaking out the mailing expenses for the anniversary celebration. The planning committee is requesting approval from the board for their proposed budgets to proceed. Proposal approved.

OLD BUSINESS:

Jill called the people who own the flyer folding machine and asked if they would be interested in selling or donating it to the RCT. They are not interested.

Linda, KE7FKX, and Harry, W7HSA, Adams are in charge of scheduling the library administration building each month for the club general meetings.

NEW BUSINESS:

Nick Winter requested permission from the board to sell ARRL books from Jerry Seligman's estate at the general meetings. Permission granted.

Rich Manson will not be at the general meeting on September 13. We will need someone to cover the food/coffee at this meeting.

Meeting adjourned at 8:52.

GENERAL MEETING
September 13th, 2006

The September 13th, 2006 Monthly Membership meeting was held at the Pierce County Library Administration Building. . President Mick Pier-KK7QS called the meeting to order at 7:30 PM.

Officers and board members present:

President:	Mick Pier -- KK7QS
Secretary:	Larry Watson --KD4VOM
Treasurer:	Pat Wingerter --KD7TRC
Board Member	Gary McAdams --W7GX
Board Member	Peter Baker – AD7EU

A sign in sheet with the names of members and guests is attached.

PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE:

Was led by President Mick Pier KK7QS

INTRODUCTIONS:

Self introductions were completed and guests Chris Strickland and Alicia Hanson welcomed.

ILLNESS and SILENT KEY: Ron -- KE7EWH let us know that he is suffering from a ringing in his ears that so far the doctors have been unable to cure.

SECRETARY'S REPORT: Larry Watson –KD4VOM

Correspondence: included the Rocking Chair Copy newsletter, three bank account statements, several Homecoming reservations and a handful of CW QSL Cards.

TREASURER'S REPORT: Pat Wingerter – KD7TRC

The Treasurer's report was made available for review.

COMMITTEE REPORTS:

Homecoming Team: Larry – KD 4VOM announced that homecoming registrations are continuing to come in and there are flyers on table for those not yet registered. The Homecoming team is getting ready to send 1200 invitations to former members within a week.

Nick Winter – K7MO discovered an older member through our recent historical research. Nick recently contacted Ken Kegley, W7DM (Formerly 7DM) who was first licensed in 1927 and was a member of the Radio Club of Tacoma. Nick first met Ken in the early 1970s when Ken was teaching the Television Phone class at Vocational School. He is the earliest member that we know of that is still alive, and will be 95 at the end of this month and is still mentally sharp. He recalled that a recent Fair Booth early receiver display was one that he had built back in the 20's for the club. He recalls many of the early members and we are looking forward to a longer interview with him…

W7DK @ the Fair: Pat – KC7TRC

Pat solicited responses and feedback from those who have worked at the fair so far. There were many kudos for how the Fair booth was set up and especially the book and materials that were prepared for the volunteers. Al -- AC7BU noted that the radiograms were missing this year. Pat responded by saying that Shirley -- N7QHW had a difficult time getting folks to respond and it turns out that many did not have the necessary radiogram information to complete the forms. As a result Pat elected to forgo the radiogram for this year's operations.

VE Report: John Clarke AC7WW reported on last Tuesday's testing session. The VE Testing Session on the evening of September 12h, at the Radio Club of Tacoma club house was attended by five candidates. There was nine VE's present to conduct the session.

There were a total of 9 elements graded, with 4 being passed. Four new Technicians joined the Amateur Radio Service. Three of the new Technicians took a try at the General written test (element 3), but failed to pass the exam. *A copy of the full report is attached to the original minutes.*

NEW BUSINESS:

Nominating Committee: Mick Pier – KK7QS as required by our By Laws appointed the following to the Nominating Committee: John Clarke AC7WW Chairman, Al Churchill AC7BU, and Steve Morton, AD7AB, members. Four positions are up for election this cycle; The President, Treasurer and two Board Directors. If you or someone you know are interested in serving, contact the Nominating Committee.

PROGRAM: Nick Winter – K7MO

Tonight's program was Amateur Radio Book Reviews:

Peter Baker -- AD7EU reviewed: ***"200 Meters and Down – The story of Amateur Radio"*** – (1936) by Clinton B. Desoto. Peter's review noted that Herbert Hoover (then Secretary of the Department of Commerce) was an advocate of the amateur radio service instrumental in preserving the Amateur frequencies which were under attack at the time by commercial interests. The book also describes the betrayal of amateurs by the Navy, despite amateur radio operator's vital support to them during

World War I. The book covers well the early trans-oceanic Pacific HF radio contacts. The book also includes extensive coverage of message handling by amateurs, which eventually evolved into the ARRL from plans developed by Hiram Percy Maxim. Maxim's early nationwide radio relay network looks surprisingly like today's Internet backbone communications net. The books style is a bit old fashioned, but very readable. The book also covers expeditions including one to the Arctic.

Rich Patrick K7RW reviewed: ***"Fun Time Radio Building"*** – by Joseph A. Smith (1961). This book was designed to take the young boy interested in amateur radio through a series of expanding and more complicated steps to building his own radio gear. It begins with instructions on how to build a basic crystal detector, an antenna, lightning arrestor, then moves to improving the receiver and a transistor audio amplifier. Morse Code is covered but sparsely. Progress continues with construction of a one tube shortwave receiver and next an oscillator transmitter, followed by instructions on how to get a "ticket" and communicate with others on the radio. The book includes construction diagrams and step by step instructions. The antenna construction includes using a spring to maintain tension on the antenna. It further describes a multi wire vertical space savings antenna. The book is very encouraging and leads the reader/builder from basic simple circuits and techniques to more and more expanded design and components.

Nick Winter K7MO reviewed: ***"Hiram Percy Maxim"*** – by Alice Clink Schumacher (1998). This is a relatively recent book on the life and times of the father of the American Radio Relay League (ARRL). Hiram was a renaissance man, and among other achievements was the inventor of the silencer. Hiram came from a large family of successful inventors.

Hiram was a pioneer in noise reduction, as well as refrigeration and air filtering. He built one of the first home air conditioners. He graduated from MIT at the age of 16 as an engineer, and worked professionally at the age of 17. He built and drove the first car in the state of Connecticut, and has 49 automotive patents to his name, and was largely responsible for our steering wheels being on the left hand side of the vehicle.

Hiram was an aviator and pioneered in gliders and won the first automobile race in the United States. Hiram pioneered in motion pictures, wrote three books and a movie script which was produced. He also wrote a newspaper column. In 1911 He became an amateur, first call was SNY. In January 1914 the Radio Club of Hartford was born, Maxim left the Hartford club in 1915 and formed the American Radio Relay League.

Maxim was an avid operator and a practical joker as well. He was the editor of QST which first appeared December 1915. The big secret of the magazine was that he also wrote the magazines most popular feature under the nom de plume T. O. M, which translates into The Old Man…Only six people knew that Maxim authored T.O.M. until after his death.

These articles were earthy and intended to reach the young operators' and improve their operating through pointed humor. He died in February of 1936 at the age of 66 while traveling to an astronomical observatory, another of his scientific interests. We amateurs owe a great debt to Mr. Hiram Percy Maxim.

Doug Oakman – AD7AV reviewed: ***"Don C. Wallace - W6AM, Amateur Radio's Pioneer"*** – by Jan Perkins N6AW (1991). Doug found this book engrossing, and well written by Jan David Perkins N6AW who, late in life was a protégé of Don Wallace W6AM. Don Wallace was a well known amateur radio operator especially recognized for his 120 acre rhombic antenna farm near Long Beach California. The book is rich with history of an amateur with real achievements. Don was the Presidents radio man, Hoover Cup recipient of 1923 (one of only four ever given); probably the first WAS in the 1920's, was a published author, ARRL leader, Quarter Century Wireless and CQ DX Hall of Fame member; DXCC Century Club, first to work from W6RO; and able to drive down the Long Beach Freeway while working CW DX at 25 wpm.

More importantly, the book reminds us of the proud heritage of amateur radio, and its struggles to remain free of government and commercial interference. It inspires up to continue to work on our skills and to have fun doing that. Finally, it shows how the examples of other excellent hams encourage those of us who are new.

ANNOUNCEMENTS:

Board Resignation: Nick Pier announced that Larry Alvar -- KD7TQW has tendered his resignation as Board Member and that Nick Winter – K7MO has been appointed to complete the remainder of Larry's Board term.

Fists Contest: – Mick Pier – KK7QS received an e-mail announcing an upcoming Annual Coast to Coast Fists Contest.

World War II vintage radio sought: E-Mail: John Sedrow, KD6IBY (The Old Captain) looking for World War II (1940s or earlier) transmitter for lighthouse… doesn't need to be working, will be used for historic static display

Salmon Run: Rich – K7RW will be setting up the Clubhouse station for Saturday and Sunday's Salmon Run contest. The activity is planned to begin around 9 am on Sat-

urday. Rich will be in and out during the two day event. Harry – W7HSA mentioned that Thursday at 5pm the FIST group is having a "get your feet wet" slow CW exercise. 47.110 MHz and 14.110 MHz.

Dege Peak Expedition: Rich K7RW presented a couple of photos of their recent hike and offered to present the photo documentary of their trek to Dege Peak and their contacts.

Hints and Kinks Topics:

Weatherproofing Coax Connectors:

There were several discussions about how to weather-proof coaxial connectors; including inserting a 5/16th "O" Ring, as well as creating a drip loop, using a piece of bi-cycle inner tube; and using shrink wrap.

Tuning and Traffic: Rich -- K7RW, reported his tuning around with PSK 31 on 40 meters attempting to raise W7DK@the Fair, Linda actually answered me. Chuck was also monitoring and joined in the conversation.

W7DK at the Fair Pat reminded folks that the fair has antennas good for 20, 40 and 80 meters and there is a key, a mike and the PSK 32 capabilities.

For what it's Worth: Worth reported that Rich – KR7W's "Intelligence Enhancer" really made the program pretty good tonight…

The meeting was adjourned at 9:15 pm

Another view of the intrepid Dege peak expedition. This time your faithful editor made the page! See page 18 for full article! From Left to right: Gary WG7X, Worth W7WG, Chuck AC7QN, and Rich Kr7W. Not pictured, (because he was the photographer!) Mike, W7MSX

Dege Peak VHF Contest Adventure

by Rich KR7W

For months Chuck and I talked about going back to Dege Peak… since our trip to Dege in 2003 was so much fun. So, we planned to go if the weather was going to be nice. We wouldn't go if it was raining or lower than 50 degrees, since we learned our lesson at the 2006 Freeze Your Buns Off QRP contest where the wind blew 40 mph and it relentlessly rained. It took two weeks to warm up after that adventure.

Two weeks before the Sept 9 ARRL VHF contest date… I started to look at the Yahoo Weather report. I like Yahoo because it is very conservative. Two weeks out, it looked like nice weather. One week out it looks like rain, but we built our antennas to take with anyway. Two days out we are supposed to get the first rain in many months. However, we lucked out… and the rain front came about 12 hours earlier than the WX-man predicted.

Early in the morning on Saturday, September 9th, myself, KR7W and Chuck, AC7QN; Worth, W7WG and Gary, WG7X; met Mike, W7MSX at the Safeway store in Enumclaw. It was decided that if it was raining at our destination, Sunrise… then Boo-Boo would ask Mr. Ranger if it was OK if we set up our two VHF stations under the eves of the Mt. Freemont Lookout- which is a two mike hike from Sunrise. But we didn't have to do that because it was cool and clear at Sunrise, the end of our drive. Besides… no one wanted to play the role of Boo-Boo.

Chuck and I each had our Yaesu FT-817s, batteries, and antennas in our packs. Worth was using his new digital camera photographing our every move. He was noticed by a tourist who asked if Worth wanted him (the tourist) to take our (group) photo. I guessed he was from Germany. Right-O… and off to a good start.

My pack looked like it contained some secret weapon to use for some horrible act… but only the German tourist noticed and he did know something about amateur radio.

We started the hike which climbed steeply about 300 vertical feet up to the Sour Dough Ridge Trail. From there we trekked for about 1.2 miles west to the cut off to Dege Peak. This short spur climbs about 400 feet in about ½ mile to 7003 ft ASL. Gary was the winner to get there first. Worth insisted I join Gary so we could start setting up our station while he trekked at his conservative pace. Upon my arrival… there were some hikers from Seattle, a dad and his two sons. He asked what was in my pack. "Ham radio", I explained. To prove that I was NOT up to NO good…I removed my pack and assembled my Tape Measure two meter Yagi and connected it to my Handy Talkie. I aimed towards Tacoma and called for W7DK. I was hoping to get the station at the Fair… but instead Al, AC7BU, answered from the clubhouse I gave the HT to the gentleman and he and Al had a nice chat.

My radio equipment was to be the 6 meter and High Frequency station. Chuck's equipment was the two meter and 70 centimeter station. Gary and I assembled the secret weapon from my pack… which was a two element Yagi, made from 1 inch PVC pipe and 4 ft aluminum angle, for 6 meters and placed the mast in a crack in the rocks and guyed it with three ropes. Chuck and Mike set up to the south of us with his 2 meter / 70 CM Yagi made from ½ inch PVC pipe, welding rod, and old TV rabbit ear antennas. This antenna was supported on a ½ inch PVC mast about 10 ft high. Worth relaxed in style in one of two collapsible lawn chairs that Chuck brought.

Aimed north… Gary was raking in the SSB contacts with the 6 meter station. Chuck and Mike were also making a lot of QSOs on two meter SSB. I tried some CW, but on one was operating CW in the lower portion of the band. After a while… I sent CW on the SSB calling frequency and made one contact. After that… I noticed other stations using this technique.

Worth had arranged some contacts on High Frequency. 3.950 MHz on the hour… and 7.260 at 10 minutes after. I set up the HF antennas, using Mike's 33 ft fiberglass push up pole. The pole was taped to the 10 ft mast of the six meter antenna set up. I assembled my TV twin-lead 20/40 meter dipole and Worth's 80 meter SSB dipole. These antennas were set up as inverted-Vs with the apex at the top of the push-up pole. The 80 meter antenna which was 60 ft from the apex to the end was too long for the small area on the top of the peak. I went over the edge to extend out the wires and tied them to rocks. The last 10 feet of each wire was laid on the rocks.

While waiting for the top of the hour… I tuned up on 17 meters in the phone portion of the band. I heard a VE3 station calling CQ. I called for him and received a 5x5 report from near Toronto. There was some atmospheric noise but I copied the VE3 very well.

At 1400…I tuned up the little FT-817 to 3.950 MHz. I didn't hear anything so I thought something was not connected properly. The tuner adjusted the antenna to the radio as normal… but I still didn't hear much. Worth called for the Whiskey Group… and there was Russ K7ILC, Steve W7IK, and Alfred K7PUC. They were booming in. The antenna and radio were working after all… just no noise on Dege Peak. The far-away stations had a high noise level so Worth was not heard as well as we heard them… but it is a great accomplishment to make contact with 5 watts on 80 meters in the middle of the afternoon. Previous to contacting the Whiskey Group fellows… Worth made a nice contact with the perpetual Noon Time Net on 7.268.5 MHz.

During the time we spent on top of Dege Peak… we met a hand full of hikers. A couple (military folks) from Washington DC area visiting the Park and going on an Alaskan cruise the next day, hikers from Seattle area, and a gentleman from Pittsburg, PA who thought that this was the most beautiful place he had ever seen. (I tend to agree).

The contest progressed on and around 1700 it started to get cold. The 6 and 2 meter stations were not making very many new contacts… so I changed the tape measure antenna to vertical polarization and announced, "WW7LW listening" on the W7DK repeater. Pete KK7QW was asking about our adventures on the peak and I told him and anyone else who was listening to move to 146.560 MHz to see how simplex worked. Thanks to the radio club members who helped us make our last few contacts. The surprise contact was from Bellingham who heard us. Not too bad on FM using 5 watts to a tape measure Yagi antenna.

We packed up, walked back to the cars, and had a nice dinner in Greenwater.

Epilog: Ole Joe would ask, "How many contacts did you make?"… and, "How far did you reach out?" Well here's what the logging software says:

On 50 MHz, we made 37 phone and two CW contacts. On 144/146 MHz we made 37 phone and one CW contact. On 432 MHz we made 7 phone contacts. Our grid square was CN97. We reached north to CN89 (someplace in British Columbia at least 200 miles away). We made contact with Bend, OR (most likely up on the slopes of Mt Bachelor about 200 miles away) which is grid square CN93. We reached east to Quincy, WA at grid square DN07, about 90 miles away. Total contacts were 85 for a point total of 1932. Hmmm…. We just might get our name in QST.

On HF, Worth talked to Reno, NV (the Noon-Time net) on 40 SSB and to some of the Whiskey Group gang on 80 SSB: Bellingham, Olympia, and Corvallis, OR. I made a QSO to near Toronto, ON.

Dammit, Joe… next time… I want you to be listening for us. -30- -72.5- -Best Regards-

Dege peak Expedition pictures!

At left top, we see Worth, W7WG, Rich Kr7W, and Chuck AC7QN going up the first segment of trail.

Rich is carrying a light load, as usual!

Bottom, left is Worth just arriving at the top of Dege peak at about 7003 feet ASL. Quite a push during that last three tenths of a mile!

WX was cool and cloudy at first, but got much better as the day went on.

Top left, we see Mike W7MSX, and Chuck AC7QN assembling Chuck's dual band wonder-beam. Worth is looking for someone else to supervise!

A quick view from Dege peak, looking back towards the Sunrise parking lot waay off in the distance.

More information available at W7DK.org.

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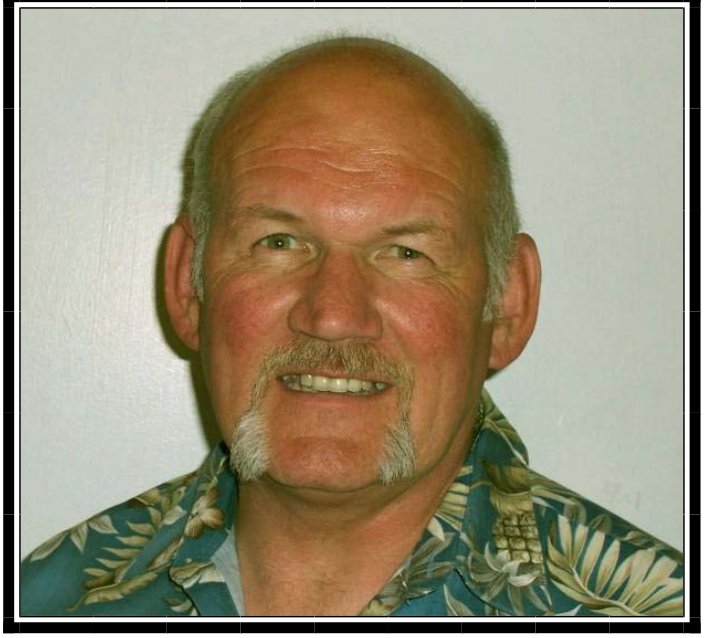

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A 79-Cent Auxiliary 12 Volt Power Outlet Bracket

by Frank J. Billington - W7FJB

My wife wanted an auxiliary 12-volt power outlet installed in her car for her GPS driving accessory. There were several lighter sockets in my junk box, but how to mount an extra one? Drilling a large hole somewhere in the dashboard was not an option, so I needed some kind of bracket.

The local Car Parts Stores had brackets as part of lighter socket packages, but I didn't need any more lighter sockets - just a bracket. I could make one out of a piece of sheet metal or something, but I was hoping for something a little sturdier. Out of the blue it hit me - the hole in a metal electrical box might be close to the right size? Right on the top of my electrical-things junk collection was a single gang metal box. I tried a lighter socket in one of the holes - perfect fit! Now the metal box needed to be cut down a little.

Using a straight edge, I marked two lines on it - one for cutting off the back part, and one for removing the screw tab part so it wouldn't protrude too far. Some hack sawing and some filing to remove some rough edges, and I had my bracket. I did drill one additional mounting hole in it just behind the opening at the edge of one of the remaining knockouts in order to provide a three-hole pattern for screwing it into the plastic material of the under dash. (If you happen to have a need for multiple 12 volt outlets, just rotate the box 90 degrees - each long side has three holes.)

Wiring harness: The lighter socket had a male spade lug for the ground connection, and a short piece of threaded brass for the 'hot' connection. A regular crimp-connector female spade lug took care of the ground wire.

I found that a crimp-connector for standard female round-pin connectors made a perfect push-on fit for the threaded terminal. I did have to clip off a little of the insulating sleeve, since the metal part was recessed in slightly, and I wanted the connector to slide all the way on.

Fusing automotive circuits is always the smart thing to do, so an automotive-style push-in fuse socket was included in the positive circuit of the wiring harness. An inline fuse holder for the small cylindrical glass fuses will do just as well.

On my wife's car, the factory fuse block has several spade lug push-in slots available for adding electrical connections, so a male crimp-connector was installed on the hot lead. Some are 'hot' all the time, while others are hot only when the ignition switch is on. Determine what kind of connection is available to you in your vehicle, and choose your terminal accordingly. For the ground, a crimp-connector screw lug terminal was installed on the negative lead, and connected to a convenient screw that was threaded into some under dash chassis metal.

Where and how you mount the bracket is up to you. For my wife, the location was selected in order to keep the GPS Speaker-plug close to the driver's seat while not having the GPS device power cord getting in the way. Once you've chosen your mounting location, tighten your mounting screws snugly (but gently if you're attaching it to a plastic dashboard), insert the lighter socket assembly, connect the wires to it, and connect the wires at the other end to your power source. Double-check your work to make sure that you have the polarity correct (we all know about 'Murphy'), and your auxiliary power socket is ready for use.

Editors note: Probably a good idea to fuse both negative and positive leads on any automotive project, and remember, this article is solely the responsibility of the author. The RCT cannot endorse any home-brew projects! We are passing this along to give others some ideas on how to do things!